

Substance Abuse Prevention

Environmental Prevention Needs Assessment Workbook SFY2014



Part 3 Analysis & Recommendations

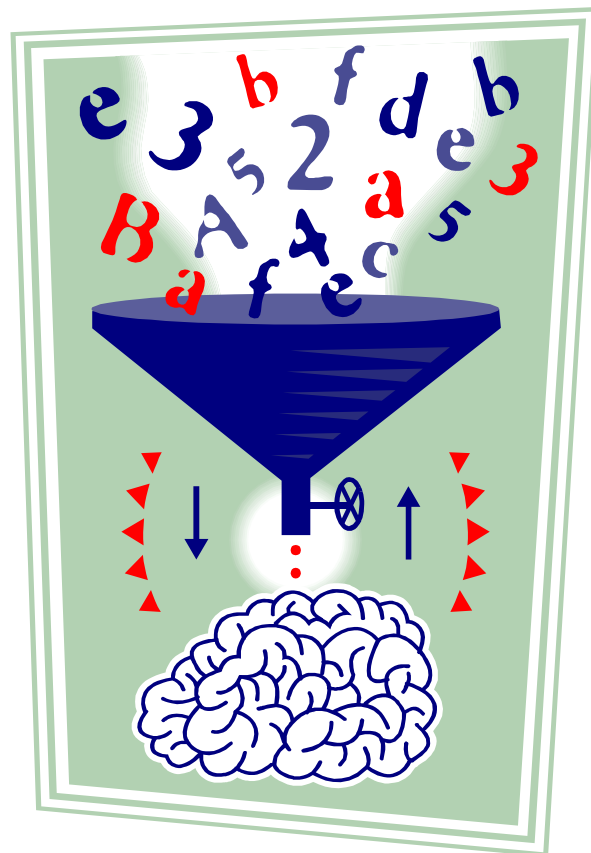
LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY

Version 1
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Problems



Task One:
Explore Consequence and Consumption Data in Your Community
in Order to Identify What Problems are of Greatest Concern

CONSEQUENCES – PART 3

Alcohol-related consequences are defined as the social, economic and health problems associated with binge drinking. This first section looks at the alcohol-related motor vehicle crash data and will help you understand the impact or consequence this has on your community. While it is recognized that not all communities will experience exactly the same impact, the consequence this project is focused on reducing is motor vehicle crashes.

Motor Vehicle Crashes

One of the major consequences of drinking alcohol is motor vehicle crashes resulting in injury and death. Drinking and driving have significant negative consequences for Montana's population. Your task will be to use the motor vehicle crash information for your community, rate the data and compare it with the state data using Workbook Part 1 - Tables 2 through 4.

QUESTION 1 Motor Vehicle Crashes

Based on Tables 2 through 4 and any other local data, how do alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes in your community compare to alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes across the state? Is your problem bigger, smaller or about the same? Discuss the differences.

For alcohol crashes with injuries, L&C County is slightly less than the state average for years 2008-2012. The state average was 119.96 crashes per 100,000 people. The county average was 106.13 per 100,000 people. In 2010 the county had the lowest alcohol crashes with injuries, with a rate of 83.33 per 100,000 people, while the state had a rate of 137.04. However, in that same year, L&C County had the highest alcohol crashes with fatalities with a rate of 11.17 per 100,000 people, while the state's average was 9.49. Although in 2012, the state had a spike of alcohol crashes with fatalities with a rate of 12.17 per 100,000, while the county was only at 4.61. Law enforcement has been proactive in stating they would be patrolling on traditionally high-incident days such as 4th of July, Memorial and Labor Day weekends and New Year's Eve.

There were no reported fatalities from crashes involving alcohol for American Indians in the county from 2007-2011, while the state average was .37, or 22 deaths.

It's not clear if the spike in alcohol related crashes with fatalities involved other substances, namely marijuana, with medical marijuana being legalized.

Underage Drinking and Driving

QUESTION 2 Underage Drinking and Driving

Based on Tables 5 through 7 and your community's own local data, how does underage drinking in your community compare to adult binge drinking across the state? Is your problem bigger, smaller or about the same? Discuss the differences.

Eighth graders in 2008-2012 reported drinking and driving higher than the state average with 2012 being the worst. MPNA data shows 4.3% of 8th graders stating they drove after drinking with the state data being 2.8%. (It's not clear why 8th graders are driving, unless they are driving on their farms or driving illegally). 2010 was the best year for the county with 9.9% of L&C County 8th-12th graders reporting drinking and driving with the state average being 9.8%.

12th grade numbers are trending down for the county from 21.7% reporting drinking and driving in 2008 to 17.9% reporting in 2012. The state average for the same period was 25.3% in 2008 to 16.6% in 2012. While county numbers dropped, they weren't as drastic as state numbers and were still higher than the state in 2012.

Native American teens reporting drinking and driving are higher than state averages whether they live on the reservation or in urban areas by at least four percentage points. In 2009 the state average was 13.5% and 17.5% of American Indians reporting drinking and driving. There is no county data to compare American Indians and other races just for L&C County.

Carroll College students report drinking and driving less every year. This includes all students, not just underage, but since college students typically range from 18-22, the data was included. Their rates reduced from 33.6% of students reporting drinking and driving in 2003 to 21.3% in 2011 – a drop in 12.3 percentage points. The US average in 2010 was 24.1%. Carroll has done considerable work in educating students about drinking, especially since 2009 when they started receiving grant money from Youth Connections thru the Drug Free Communities grant. The data shows it has been very effective.

High School Students Riding in Car Driving by Someone Who Has Been Drinking

QUESTION 3 High School Students riding in a Car Driven by Someone Who Has Been Drinking

Based on Tables 8 through 10 and your community's own local data, how does high school students riding in a car driven by someone who has been drinking in your community compare students riding in a car driven by someone who has been drinking across the state? Is your problem bigger, smaller or about the same? Discuss the differences.

L&C County numbers for riding in a car with someone who has been drinking are below the state average totals across the board. In 2012, 24.1% of L&C County 12th graders report riding with someone who has been drinking versus 25.9% statewide. The class of 2010 percentages

dropped from 33.6% to 26.6% from 10th to 12th grade. The class of 2014 reported 27.2% in 8th grade compared to 22.9% in 10th grade. It's encouraging to see a reduction in the number of students reporting that they ride with someone who has been drinking. However, it's important to note that it's not clear if the person driving is impaired or has just had one with dinner – or if the students are riding with friends who have been drinking or a parent and in either case how much the driver has consumed.

In the 2009 YRBS, 41.9% of American Indians living on reservations reported riding with a driver who has been drinking compared to 28.8% as the state average. Fortunately that number is decreasing with the 2013 YRBS numbers showing 31.9% of American Indians living on reservations reporting riding with someone who drank versus 24.5% for the state average.

It's felt that awareness from deaths due to drinking/driving and the child endangerment law enacted in 2013 have affected the numbers. Coverage by the media has increased around negative alcohol-related events, thereby changing the social norms.

Final Consequence Question

QUESTION 4

Based on all of the consequence data analyzed here and your answers to Questions 1 through 3, how is motor vehicle crashes, underage drinking and driving, and high school students riding in vehicles driven by driver who had been drinking impacting your community? Explain the rationale for your response.

There are still motor vehicle crashes involving DUIs, which impacts the community especially when it involves a death. Data shows numbers are trending down, so that is a positive impact. The stats around teens riding in cars driven by a driver who has been drinking has not been shared or published, so there is a lack of knowledge about the problem. However the changing of social norms has shown it is making an impact regarding drinking and driving. There have been several high-profile cases surrounding alcohol that have impacted the community that keep it front and center in people's minds, which is felt to have helped lower the numbers. The media coverage around those events has helped impact the community positively by educating residents about the issue. Enactment of the child endangerment law is felt to also have impacted the numbers for the positive.

CONSUMPTION – PART 3

This section looks at consumption data and will help you identify which alcohol-related consumption problems are greatest in your community. Consumption data includes binge drinking, underage drinking and driving, and high school students riding in cars driven by someone drinking. While it is recognized that not all communities will experience exactly the same problems the specific focus will be binge drinking.

Underage Binge Drinking

QUESTION 5 Underage Binge Drinking

Based on Tables 11 through 14 and your community's own local data, how does underage binge drinking in your community compare to underage binge drinking across the state? Is your problem bigger, smaller or about the same? Discuss the differences.

12th grade PNA numbers all three years are slightly higher than the state. In 2008 38.7% of L&C County 12th graders report binge drinking versus 36.9% of high school seniors statewide. In 2012 those numbers were 34.9% and 31.8% respectively. It's encouraging to see those numbers dropping. However, the 2013 YRBS numbers show that 24.2% of high school students in Helena School District reporting binge drinking, and 27.8% in 2011, which may show that students in the rural parts of the county are binge drinking at a higher rate. 8th grade numbers in 2010 spiked to 15.1% in the county, but then trended down in 2012 to be comparable to state averages at about 11%. Binge drinking increases as the students get older.

Native American binge drinking numbers are alarming at over three times the percentage for 8th graders as the state all-student average – 35.7% American Indian versus 10.2% county in 2008. They don't improve in 2012 with 9.4% in the county and 27.3% of American Indians reporting binge drinking. The YRBS shows that numbers are declining for both populations. In 2007 45.7% American Indians on reservations report binge drinking with 25.2% at the state average. In 2013 32.7% of American Indians on reservations report binge drinking with 23.5% of the state reporting. American Indians have had a greater improvement in numbers, but still are much higher than teens across the state.

Adult Binge Drinking

QUESTION 6 Adult Binge Drinking

Based on Tables 15 and 16 and your community's own local data, how does adult binge drinking in your community compare to adult binge drinking across the state? Is your problem bigger, smaller or about the same? Discuss the differences.

Because of the lack of historic county data, it's difficult to compare apples to apples and look at trends. However, according to the L&C County Community Health Needs Assessment in 2012, 20.1% of men report binge drinking and 12.8% of women do. The state 2011 BRFSS numbers show 21.8% of adults reporting binge drinking. If you add the women and men's numbers from the county assessment, it would appear L&C County has a significant issue with 32.9% of adults versus 21.8% statewide reporting binge drinking. Numbers across the state have also been increasing. In 2008, 17.7% of adults in the state report binge drinking increasing to 21.8% in 2012.

American Indian numbers have increased dramatically from 2008 to 2012 with reported binge drinking increasing from 17.3% to 27.5% over that time frame.

According to the L&C County Health Needs Assessment in 2012, the majority of binge drinking was by men and low income people, 20.1% reporting in both categories.

Carroll College had a huge drop from 53.2% of students reporting binge drinking in 2007 to 43.8% in 2011. The national average for college students was 43.9% in 2010. It's not clear if those are adult or underage drinkers, but it's worthy to note their work on decreasing alcohol use on their campus.

Underage Drinking (30 Day Use for Alcohol)

QUESTION 7 Underage Drinking Based on Tables 17 through 19 and your community's own local data, how does underage drinking in your community compare to underage drinking across the state? Is your problem bigger, smaller or about the same? Discuss the differences.

Overall usage is declining. The averages for all ages in L&C County was 39.8% in 2008 and is down to 34.5% in 2012. Usage is higher in the county as compared to the state. The state numbers are 38.4% in 2008 declining to 35.1% in 2012. Both populations dropped 3.3 percentage points. Drinking remains the culture in Montana. Since the enactment of the social host ordinance, citations have declined in the city, proving that a statewide social host law may be beneficial. Usage does increase as students get older.

The YRBS showed an impressive decrease in American Indian students reporting drinking from 2007 to 2009 when usage went from 53.9% to 38.39%. That number has stayed consistently in the high 30s. Drinking by teens statewide is trending down from 46.5% in 2007 to 37.1 in 2013. However, the PNA showed 35.1% of teens reporting drinking in 2012 and the 2013 YRBS showed an increase to 37.1%. Because of the difference of grades reporting, that may explain the increase.

Carroll College has seen a dramatic decrease in students reporting drinking in the previous 30 days. In 2003 their numbers were 79.6% and in 2011 their usage numbers were 71.7%, with the national average being 69.2%. The percentage of underage students reporting drinking in the previous 30 days was 77.9% in 2003 and 62.9% in 2011 with the national average being 61.2%. While they are still above the national average, it's worthy to note their dramatic decrease after

receiving grant money from Youth Connections in 2009. There was a lot of education after surveys that were conducted and they were part of the Domino Strategy that the DUI Task Force implemented in 2012. Carroll also reduced the number of events on their campus that allowed alcohol and had incoming students take on-line alcohol awareness training.

Prescription Drug Abuse by Youth (30 Day Use)

QUESTION 8 Prescription Drug Abuse

Based on Tables 20 and 22 and your community's own local data, how does the data about prescription drug abuse by youth in your community compare to the same data across the state? Is your problem bigger, smaller or about the same? Discuss the differences.

Lewis & Clark's numbers are significantly higher than the state average across the board and are trending up for 8th graders even though the state numbers are going down. In 2010, 5.7% L&C County 8th graders reported using prescription compared with 1.9% across the state. In 2012 our numbers jumped to 7.5% whereas the state dropped to 1.8%. 2010 saw a spike across the board with 10th and 12th grade numbers dropping in 2012. Law enforcement reports that prescription drugs are easy to get, easy to hide and they can't be smelled on someone's breath. The community as a whole is unaware of the problem. There have been a number of suicide attempts using prescription drugs by teens. It's a huge problem in L&C County.

Native Americans in urban areas have the highest use with 31.4% of students reporting usage compared to the state number at 16.2% (2011 YRBS). Usage is trending upward across the state among all teens from 16.2% to 18.4% from 2011 to 2013. According to the 2013 YRBS, 19.17% of Helena School District high school students report taking prescription drugs without a prescription. Lewis & Clark County's teen data is trending the wrong direction. Prior to the development of a Prescription Drug Task Force by Youth Connections in April of 2014, very little prevention work had been done around prescription drugs specifically. They had been lumped into an all-inclusive category of "drugs".

Final Consumption Question

QUESTION 9

Based on all of the consumption data analyzed here and your answers to Questions 5 through 8, how are underage drinking, binge drinking, and prescription drug abuse impacting your community? Explain the rationale for your response.

By just looking at the data asked for and not the whole picture (graduation rates, unemployment numbers, homeless numbers, treatment admissions, missed days of work, etc.) it's impossible to identify how drinking and drug abuse entirely affects our community. However, there have been

a number of attempted suicides involving prescription drugs by teens. Law enforcement also states that the majority of DUIs also include other drugs, specifically prescription drugs. The community is not aware of how prevalent they are in our community. Law enforcement also states that teens are having pharm or skittles parties – where kids raid their parents’ or grandparents’ medicine cabinets and bring all the drugs to a party and put them in a bowl. They take turns grabbing a handful, not knowing what they are taking. The hospital has assembled a task force, as has Youth Connections and they will work together to try and address the prescription drug issue in our community as the identified problems are just the tip of the iceberg.

There are continued struggles with educating parents on the dangers of alcohol on teen’s brains. Some feel it’s a rite of passage or think it’s okay to host parties because then the kids are safe and not driving. By passing a social host ordinance it’s felt that threat deters adults from providing alcohol to underage drinkers. In addition, the work done by Youth Connections around Parents Who Host helps educate parents about the dangers of providing alcohol to children. In 2013, the highest percentage of parents signed the pledge showing that awareness is working.

Parents of graduating seniors host a graduation party that goes all night and gives kids a safe and fun place to go where they won’t be drinking and getting into accidents. It’s been extremely effective in reducing accidents around graduation.

Carroll has done a great job in decreasing their use numbers, which shows prevention and information works. We feel public awareness, education and partnering with law enforcement has been effective.

RISK FACTORS - PART 3

Perception of Parental Disapproval/Attitude

QUESTION 10 Parental Attitudes and Disapproval

Based on Table 23 and your community’s own local data, how does the data about parental attitudes and disapproval towards alcohol/drug use in your community compare to the same data across the state? Is your problem bigger, smaller or about the same? Discuss the differences.

L&C County’s 8th grade numbers are under the state average, but not by much. They range from being under the state average by .3 in 2008 to 1.9 in 2012 – so trending the wrong way. Tenth and 12th grade numbers are better than the state average, but across the board they drop as students get older. In 2010 there is the largest discrepancy in numbers with 84.2% average of students in L&C County stating their parents disapprove of alcohol versus 81.1% for the state average.

In 2008 a social host ordinance was passed which resulted in a spike in parental disapproval in 2010 with all age groups.

Perception of Peer Disapproval/Attitude

QUESTION 11 Peer Attitudes and Disapproval

Based on Table 24 and your community's own local data, how does the data about peer attitudes and disapproval towards alcohol/drug use in your community compare to the same data across the state? Is your problem bigger, smaller or about the same? Discuss the differences.

Lewis & Clark County's 8th grade numbers are horrible and have been for all four years. In 2008 57.7% reported peer disapproval versus 81.9% of the state's 8th graders. There was a slight increase in 2012 to 62.9% and 83.3%, respectively. Our 12th grade numbers are significantly higher than the state average with the biggest disparity in 2008 with 62.9% of 12th graders reporting peer disapproval to the state's 28%. The numbers trend up, but the state closes the gap in 2012 with data showing 72% for L&C County seniors versus 53.3% of the state's seniors reporting peer disapproval. Our 10th grade numbers are seeing an increase over the 4 year span from 53.2% for 65%, so going in the right direction.

Evaluators felt leaders in high school are perhaps realizing it's not as cool in high school to drink. They felt that a wreck or death of a friend due to alcohol may sway the perceptions/attitudes of students as they get older.

Perceived Risk/Harm of Use

QUESTION 12 Perceived Risk/Harm of Use

Based on Tables 26 through 30 and your community's own local data, how does the data about perceived risk/harm of use in your community compare to the same data across the state? Is your problem bigger, smaller or about the same? Discuss the differences.

L&C County 8th graders feel about the same as their counterparts across the state that they believe it is wrong to drink alcohol. However, in 2012 they surpassed the state averages with the county numbers at 81.3% versus 76.9% for the state. By the time L&C County teens are seniors, their perception of drinking alcohol being wrong nosedive. In 2008 45.9% report feeling it's wrong versus 59.2% of seniors across the state. In 2012 those numbers were 49.9% and 69%, respectively.

8th graders in 2008 and 2010 felt it was way cooler than the state average to drink. In 2012 those numbers were comparable. 10th and 12th graders are now fairly comparable. There is a huge spike from 8th to 10th grade across the board in belief that drinking is cool. Averaging out all grades, the numbers in 2012 showed 24.3% of L&C County teens versus 23.5% of the state teens felt it

was cool to drink. Interesting that the class of 2012 reported as 8th graders that 16% of them felt it was cool, then in 10th grade 33.3% felt it was and as seniors it dropped to 31.9%.

Risk of harm for 1-2 drinks among 8th graders is good, but dropped below the state average in 2012. 12th graders across the board have lower numbers than the state average. 10th grade numbers were significantly lower in 2008 and 2010 but surpassed state numbers in 2012. In surveying all 3 grades from 2008-2012, the highest percentage of students stating 1-2 drinks daily was harmful were L&C County 10th graders in 2012. 67% of them reported feeling it was harmful.

Risk of harm for 5+ drinks every weekend was higher than the state average overall in 2008, but then went below in 2010 and 2012. 2010 across the board saw a drop in perceived harm among all grades but trended up to comparable numbers in 2012. The average of all grades in 2008 was 78% for L&C County and 75.5% for the state. In 2012 those numbers were 73.9% and 76% respectively, so heading in the wrong direction.

Overall, a higher percentage of L&C County students than the state feel neighbors think it's wrong for students to drink alcohol. Average numbers of all grades in 2008 showed 74% of L&C County teens versus 71.5% of the state teen's felt the neighbors thought it was wrong for students to drink. In 2012 those numbers were 71.9% and 69.1%, respectively. Unfortunate that those numbers are trending down, but the county is still above the state's numbers.

The evaluation committee felt that kids aren't suffering enough consequences to solicit change. They felt there needed to be stronger enforcement by schools/coaches, law enforcement and the judicial system as well as environmental change.

Family Communication around Alcohol/Drug Use

QUESTION 13 Family Communications around Alcohol/Drug Use

Based on Table 25 and your community's own local data, how does the data about family communication around alcohol/drug use in your community compare to the same data across the state? Is your problem bigger, smaller or about the same? Discuss the differences.

L&C County teens report talking to a parent about the dangers of drugs/alcohol at considerably less rates than others in the state. 2012 was the worst with the averages of L&C County teens talking to their parents at 27.9% of the time versus 61% of teens statewide, according to the PNA.

Evaluators felt this community relied too heavily on the school to do everything. In addition, they felt technology kept families from talking as much.

Alcohol Use is Causing Problems in Areas of Financial, Legal, Emotional, etc.

QUESTION 14 Alcohol is Causing Problems in Areas related to Financial, Legal, Emotional, etc.

Based on Table 31 and your community's own local data, how does the data about problems related to financial, legal, emotional, etc., around alcohol/drug use in your community compare to the same data across the state? Is your problem bigger, smaller or about the same? Discuss the differences

Lewis & Clark County's numbers are significantly lower than the state average; sometimes up to 75% lower. In 2008 the average of all grades in L&C County was 5% of teens feeling alcohol contributing to problems. The state average was 10.2%. In 2012 those numbers were 2.7% for the L&C County and 8.9% for the state. The largest discrepancy was in 2012 among 10th graders where 1.6% of the county teens felt alcohol contributed to problems versus 10.6% for the state.

The committee felt that our community has more resources available than most and so students are not seeing the problems caused by alcohol. In addition, living in the state capitol with the majority of people working for the government, the economy has been more stable than most other communities.

Final Risk Factors Question

QUESTION 15

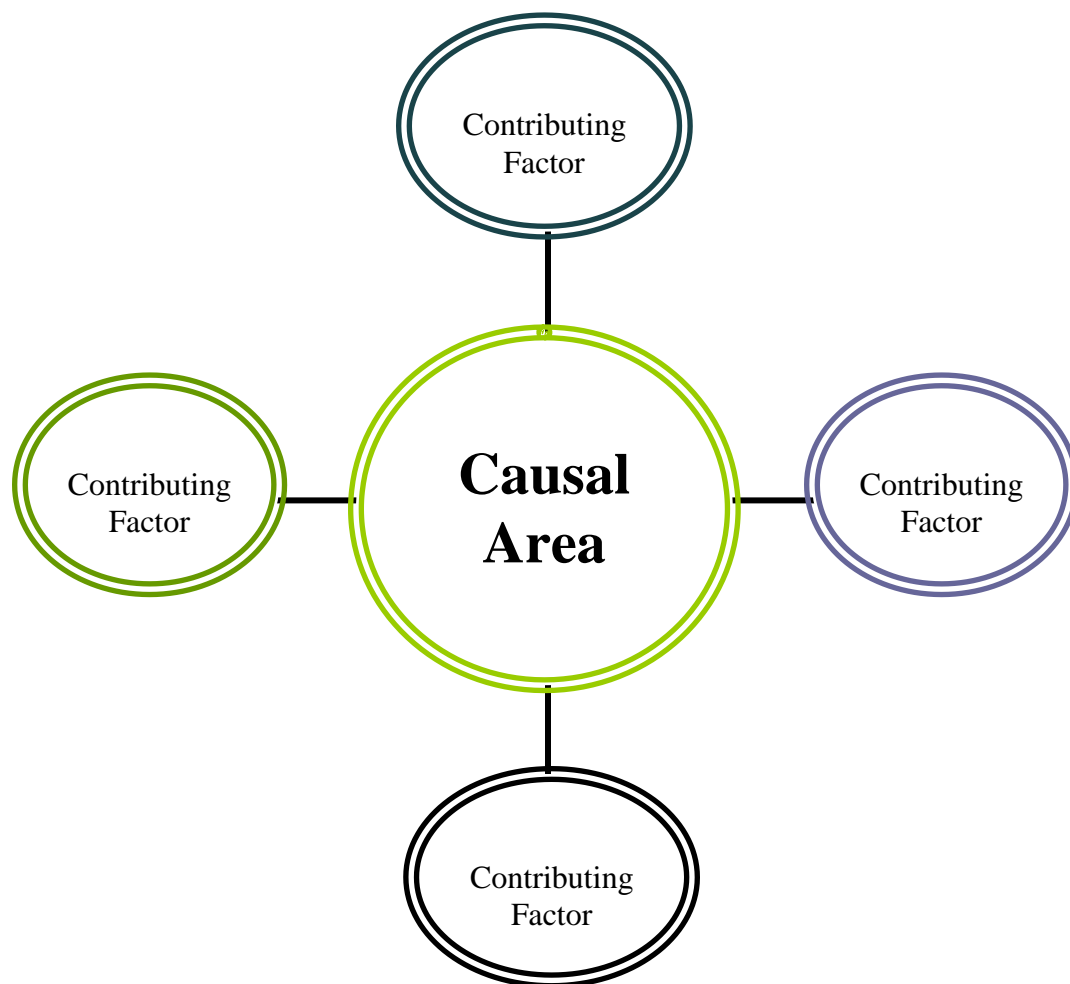
Based on the risk data collected in questions 10 through 14, how is your community affected by the risk factors outlined above? Explain the rationale for your response.

The committee felt that because of Helena's stable economy, there was not as much perceived risk, especially around financial, legal and emotional issues. Youth continue to think it's okay to drink even though peer and parental disapproval is above the state average.

It was felt that alcohol is too easy to obtain – from older siblings and friends, and from home. The consequences are not a deterrent and are not administered consistently and equally, especially in sports programs – in school and in community programs. There is a perception that an MIP is a badge of honor.

All this taken into consideration gives students the perception that drinking is okay, so puts youth at risk.

Causal Areas



Task Two:
Gather Data on Four Causal Areas

RETAIL AVAILABILITY – PART 3

Compliance Checks

The selling of alcohol to minors or to individuals who are intoxicated can contribute to the misuse of alcohol in your community. One measure of this is the failure of compliance checks by retail outlets. Collect the following data for your community. If compliance checks are conducted by more than one agency, it will be necessary to collect data from multiple law agencies in your community (Sheriff, Deputy, City Police, Tribal Law Enforcement, and Highway Patrol). In some counties, the DUI Task Force may have compliance check data available.

QUESTION 16 Compliance Checks

Based on Table 2-3 does the failure percent seem to be rising or staying the same. Discuss the impact this may be having on your community.

Failure of compliance checks seems to be dropping. There were checks conducted in 2013 with a 17% failure rate, which was the lowest except for 2011. They have been covered by media very well. In addition, the lawsuit brought against a bar & server has led to community awareness. L&C County is seeing some environmental and cultural change around alcohol, especially to minors.

In 2009 39% of checks failed (22 of 57)

In 2010 23% of checks failed (15 of 66)

In 2011 6% of checks failed (1 of 15)

2012 none conducted

QUESTION 17 Compliance Checks

If your community does not do compliance checks, does them infrequently, or if residents have no knowledge of the results of compliance checks, how might this affect binge drinking and drinking & driving in your community? Please the rationale for your response.

No compliance tests were done in 2012 due to lack of staffing.

The evaluation committee feels kids are getting alcohol from older siblings and friends, and less from commercial establishments. They also did not feel there was a way to tell if there was a direct correlation between compliance checks and binge drinking and drinking & driving because compliance checks only address sales to minors, not over-service.

Alcohol Seller/Server Training

The selling or serving of alcohol to minors and the continued sales or service of alcohol to someone who is intoxicated can contribute to the misuse of alcohol in your community. Most communities offer free training on a periodic basis to individuals who sell or serve alcohol in a business establishment. The general accessibility of alcohol can be significantly impacted by the practices of alcohol establishments.

QUESTION 18 Alcohol Merchant Retail Sales Training

Discuss the trends shown in Table 2-4. How do the number of RBSS trainings and number of people trained vary over time? Is this trend consistent with the relative growth rate of alcohol licenses and the turn-over rate of alcohol servers in your community? Discuss the implications of this trend for binge drinking and drinking and driving in our community.

The trend is up for providing alcohol merchant sales training. With the law passed in 2011 requiring all servers and sellers to obtain training, which is valid for 3 years, there is an anticipated increase in training in 2014 for those whose certification is up. There is no data on the turn-over rate of alcohol servers.

Adult binge drinking numbers have not dropped, due to RBSS, in fact they have increased. The evaluation committee feels binge drinking is caused by a different issue than merchant training. There was discussion about mental health issues, as co-occurring is in the forefront in the treatment industry.

QUESTION 19 Alcohol Merchant Retail Sales Training

If your community does not hold RBSS trainings, how might this affect binge drinking and drinking and driving in your community?

N/A

Retail Availability Questions

QUESTION 20 Based on information gathered about liquor licenses, alcohol compliance checks, RBSS training and other local data, what are the retail-availability problems that might contribute to binge drinking and drinking and driving and their consequences in your community? Explain the rationale for your response.

The evaluation committee doesn't feel availability contributes to binge drinking. People are drinking for different reasons than it's available. College towns such as Missoula and Bozeman have lower percentages of liquor licenses, but higher binge drinking rates. Prevention, awareness and education will affect binge numbers, not but availability.

QUESTION 21

Based on the above considerations, to what degree do you believe retail availability is impacting the binge drinking and drinking and driving and its consequences in your community? Place an "X" on the scale below. Explain the rationale for your response.

No impact										Major impact
0	1	X2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

People are drinking for other reasons than it is available. Carroll College reduced their binge drinking numbers, but retail availability did not significantly decrease during that time, if at all. This committee does not feel there is a substantial link between availability and binge drinking.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE – PART 1

The next causal area included in your community environmental assessment has to do with the criminal justice system, which includes the court system and all types of law enforcement (City Police, Sheriff or Deputy, Tribal Law Enforcement, Forrest Service, Park Service, University Police, others). This will require 'on-the-ground' data collection on your part.

Conviction Rates

To understand how the criminal justice system in your community addresses binge drinking and drinking and driving, you will need to visit the clerk of court for all circuit courts in your community. Each clerk should be able to provide you a listing of the cases filed in 2006 for the alcohol-related crimes listed below. Communities with active DUI Task Forces may also be a source for some of the data.

QUESTION 22 Conviction Rates

Based on Table 2-5, discuss the impact the conviction rate may be having on your community.

L&C County has an incredible DUI conviction rate of 94%. There is no state data on conviction rates provided in Part I to compare L&C County to the rest of the state to see if the conviction rate has an impact on the number of DUI arrests.

It is felt the conviction rates do add to the perception that drinking and driving is wrong. The media is diligent about covering DUI arrests and law enforcement is confident that arrests will turn into convictions. It is also felt that the judicial system takes these arrests seriously.

QUESTION 23

Based on Table 2-5, identify any specific type of crime that has a conviction or dismissal rate noticeably different than others. What does this suggest about binge drinking or drinking and driving within your community?

Drug paraphernalia conviction rates are low, but it's not clear why. The committee doesn't feel there is a correlation to that and binge drinking or drinking and driving.

Key Informant Interviews with Law Enforcement

As part of this environmental assessment you will need to conduct interviews of key law enforcement officers. If your jurisdiction is served by both a police department and a sheriff's department you are encouraged to do an interview with both the Chief of Police and the Sheriff but consider what interviews would be the most appropriate and informative for your community. Other law enforcement to consider includes Tribal Law Enforcement, Highway Patrol, Code Enforcement, Fish and Game or Forrest Service.

QUESTION 24 Key Law Enforcement Interviews

Based on your interviews with law enforcement officers others on this topic, what efforts are your law enforcement agencies pursuing to address binge drinking and drinking and driving in your community?

They are aware of corridors that drunk drivers tend to use and so they monitor those, especially on the weekends.

They are obtaining more training for Drug Recognition Experts, which in turn that information is shared with other officers.

They write MIPs when kids are caught, rather than letting them go.

They are present and involved: DUI Task Force, School Resource Officers and the TXT UR HPD program that Youth Connections developed. Teens have their school resource officer's cell phone numbers that they can text information about parties, drugs, fights, etc.

QUESTION 25 Key Law Enforcement Interviews

Based on your interviews with law enforcement officers others on this topic, what efforts are your law enforcement agencies NOT pursuing to address binge drinking and drinking and driving in your community? What appears to be the primary reasons they are not pursuing identified efforts?

They are unable to conduct a lot of compliance checks due to being understaffed. In addition, it takes two people to conduct a DUI stop, so understaffing is an issue.

They are unable to address parties by minors because of the geographical distances. It was felt that social host drove kids into the county, so there are greater distances between houses, so it is difficult for neighbors to call and report parties.

Use of Local Ordinances

QUESTION 26 Use of Local Ordinances

Based on Table 2-7, discuss the application or enforcement of each ordinance that exists in your community. Is the ordinance applied consistently? Is use of the ordinance visible to the community? Does law enforcement view it as a useful tool in addressing alcohol-related problems?

Community Events – the ordinance is applied consistently and it is visible to the community. It's unclear if law enforcement finds it useful in addressing alcohol-related problems.

Open Container – the ordinance is applied consistently and it's visible to the community. Law enforcement finds it useful because they can write citations.

Noise, etc. – the ordinance is applied consistently and it's visible to the community. The ordinance helps law enforcement find parties.

Social host –it's applied consistently. It was unclear if it was visible to the community. Letters are sent to all graduating seniors' families asking them to sign an agreement not to provide alcohol at graduation parties and prom and the social host ordinance is cited, but it's not clear if it's known city-wide. It's not clear if law enforcement find it useful. There is no teeth behind the ordinance and there are no consequences.

QUESTION 27 Use of Local Ordinances

Are there ordinances which do not exist in your community but which may be especially effective in addressing your binge drinking or drinking and driving in your community? If so, which ones, and why?

The evaluation committee felt it would be helpful to be able to cite the server in an over-service or DUI issue and not just the license holder. Currently, the server is not liable, however there is a case in court that will be addressing that. If the servers are held responsible, they may be more mindful about over-service and serving to minors since it would affect them directly.

The evaluation committee would also like to see the separation of alcohol consumption areas from family areas – such as Alive @ 5. There is also an issue of people that are of age purchasing alcoholic beverages and giving them to minors at events such as hockey and baseball games.

Other Local Data: Criminal Justice

Feel free to consider other local data that will help you better understand how and to what extent criminal justice issues in your community may contribute to binge drinking and its consequences in your community. For example, you may have information on a local DUI Taskforce that exists and its activity level. You may be able to assess information from your local drug courts. If you have other local data, describe the results here.

Criminal Justice Questions

QUESTION 28

Based on information gathered from alcohol conviction rates, use of local ordinances, key law enforcement interviews and other local data, how might the local criminal justice system be contributing to binge drinking and its consequences in your community? Provide the rationale for your response.

It is felt law enforcement is doing a good job with MIP citations and DUI arrests and convictions. The judicial system takes it seriously. The 94% conviction rate is proof. It is not felt this is just a criminal justice system or law enforcement issue, especially the binge drinking. The community needs to know why people are doing this.

QUESTION 29

Based on the considerations in Question 21, to what degree do you believe the concerns around criminal justice are contributing to binge drinking and its consequences in your community? Place an "X" on the scale below. Provide the rationale for your response.

No impact											Major impact
0	X1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	

It's not felt the criminal justice is contributing to binge drinking. Arresting people is not going to change why people are binge drinking. If people binge drink at home, it may not come out as a negative consequence in the community unless they start to lose their jobs and they become an economic burden to the community or their behavior, for instance against family members, starts to affect others around them. There is not enough information in this workbook to make such correlations.

SOCIAL AVAILABILITY – PART 3

Social availability includes the obtaining of alcohol from friends, associates and family members, but it also refers to the availability of alcohol at gatherings such as parties and other social events where the alcohol is provided as part of the event.

QUESTION 30 Prevention Needs Assessment

Based on Tables 35 and 36, how does student perception of being caught for drinking in your community compare to the perception across the state? Is your problem bigger, smaller or about the same? Discuss the differences.

There is no major discrepancies in data between the county and the state regarding being caught by law enforcement.

In 2008, 10th and 12th graders thought they were less likely to be caught by their parents than the state average, but 8th graders were much closer to the state average. As students got older they were much less likely to think they would get caught, but between 2008 and 2012 percentages increased by those who thought they would be caught.

Interesting that they all thought their parents would catch them before law enforcement.

Social Availability Questions

QUESTION 31

Based on information gathered from law enforcement interviews, public opinion surveys, the Prevention Needs Assessment, and other local data what are the concerns around social availability that might contribute to binge drinking, drinking and driving, and respective consequences in your community? Provide the rationale for your response.

Alcohol is still available in homes and it was felt that older siblings and friends were still buying for underage drinkers. Even though wrist bands are required at events such as Alive @5 and sporting events, there is no way to control where the alcohol ends up once it leaves the pouring station. In an unscientific survey of 128 coalition members, 53% respondents felt youth could access alcohol very or fairly easily at community events.

The evaluation committee felt availability was not tied to binge drinking. There are other issues that need to be identified to address that. If availability were the reason, there would be more binge drinkers in areas with the most retailers, like large college towns.

Drinking and driving is an issue because there is no bus system or cab service that provides rides, except to Carroll College students. Topsy Tow is available on New Year's Eve, but no other time of the year.

QUESTION 32

Based on these considerations, to what degree do you believe social availability is impacting binge drinking and drinking and driving and its consequences in your community? Place an "X" on the scale below. Provide the rationale for your response.

No impact											Major impact
0	1	2	3	4	5	X6	7	8	9	10	

Events such as Alive @ 5 and events like hockey, baseball and rodeos contribute to drinking and driving. Once at those events, there is no way to get home unless there is someone designated to drive. In addition, there is no limit to the number of drinks at those events, so binge drinking can be an issue.

PROMOTION – PART 3

Promotion refers to attempts by alcohol retailers and the alcohol industry to increase demand through the marketing of their products. Once again, this will require some original data collection to acquire a sense of the depth and potential impact of various marketing tactics surrounding alcohol in your community.

Advertising

QUESTION 33 Advertising

Based on the data you collected regarding the level of advertising in local print media within your community, advertising via signage on buildings within your community and advertising via sponsorship of local events, is the overall level of alcohol advertising in your community excessive? Provide the rationale for your response.

Based on the numbers in the scan, it doesn't appear that the amount of advertising in the community is excessive. There are less ads in the newspaper than the last time this data workbook was completed 6 years ago.

QUESTION 34 Advertising

Based on the data collected regarding the level of advertising in local print media within your community, advertising via signage on buildings within your community and advertising via sponsorship of local events, how might the magnitude of alcohol advertising in your community be impacting binge drinking and drinking and driving and its consequences?

It wasn't felt the number of ads contributes to binge drinking or drinking and driving. People drink for other reasons than seeing an ad. However, the events where alcohol advertisers choose to advertise was a concern. They tended to be family events such as the rodeo, sporting events and Alive @5.

QUESTION 35 Alcohol-Related News Articles

Based on the data collected regarding the number of news articles in contrast to the amount of advertising in local print media within your community, how do you think alcohol use is being portrayed? How do you think this is impacting binge drinking and drinking and driving in your community?

It was felt the media coverage portrayed alcohol in a bad light. The articles were negative about alcohol, such as multiple DUIs. If it is impacting binge drinking and drinking & driving, it's in a negative way.

Promotion Questions

QUESTION 36

Based on information gathered from sponsorships, advertising and other local data, what are the concerns around promotion that might contribute to binge drinking and drinking and driving and the associated consequences in your community? Explain the rationale for your response.

It was felt promoting events, not necessarily just ads or billboards encouraged people to drink. Fundraisers link themselves to alcohol because when people are drinking they tend to spend more money making the fundraiser more successful. It was felt distributors who sponsored events didn't promote drinking, only if they used a named alcohol. For example Sandy Mac's in itself doesn't invoke the idea of drinking alcohol, but Budweiser does.

QUESTION 37

Based on these considerations, to what degree do you believe promotion is impacting binge drinking and its consequences in your community? Place an "X" on the scale below. Explain the rationale for your response.

No impact												Major impact
0	1	2	3	4	X	5	6	7	8	9	10	

It was felt that advertising specific alcohol and the images that conjures up, promotes drinking more than just a distributor. The fact that they line themselves up with events that promote drinking encourages binge drinking and drinking & driving.

SCHOOL POLICIES – PART 3

QUESTION 37

Based on information gathered from your school districts, what are the concerns around how those policies contribute to either the underage substance use or reduce underage substance abuse and the associated consequences in your community? Explain the rationale for your response.

The absence of the phrase "in the presence of" regarding drugs and alcohol encourages kids to attend parties and drink. They know there is nothing that will happen to them if they attend a

party and there is no proof that they were actually partaking. In addition, consequences are personality dependent. Not all coaches enforce the alcohol or drug policies equally. They are not enforced across the board. The coach's commitment to the policy is a huge deal. In addition, no "zero tolerance" policy exists, which basically sends a message to students that there's a way out of everything.

QUESTION 38

Based on these considerations, to what degree do you believe your school district's policies and programs in your community are impacting binge drinking and its consequences in your community? Place an "X" on the scale below. Explain the rationale for your response.

No impact												Major impact	
0	1	2	3	X	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		

Policies are in place, but they are not impacting the county's numbers. The enforcement is inconsistent. The school board is unwilling to adopt a zero-tolerance policy to include "in the presence of" in the drug/alcohol policy.

MEDICAL FIELD INFORMATION – PART 3

QUESTION 39

Based on information gathered from local hospitals, pharmacies, and prescribers, what are the concerns around prescription drug abuse in your area? Explain the rationale for your response.

It was felt the issues around prescription drugs are over-prescribing; i.e. getting too many pills for simple procedures such as dentist visits. Also the availability of so many current and left over drugs at home. It was felt there has not been enough education about the problem. In addition, the system to check drug seekers is complicated and so prescribers are not excited to use it. Although there is a drug drop box at the law enforcement center, it's not well publicized and people are leery to take drugs to the police station for fear of retribution. Drug take-back events have been few and far between.

QUESTION 40

Based on these considerations, to what degree do you believe the medical field data you collect is impacting prescription drug abuse and its consequences in your community? Place an "X" on the scale below. Explain the rationale for your response.

No impact

0

1

2

3

4

X5

6

7

8

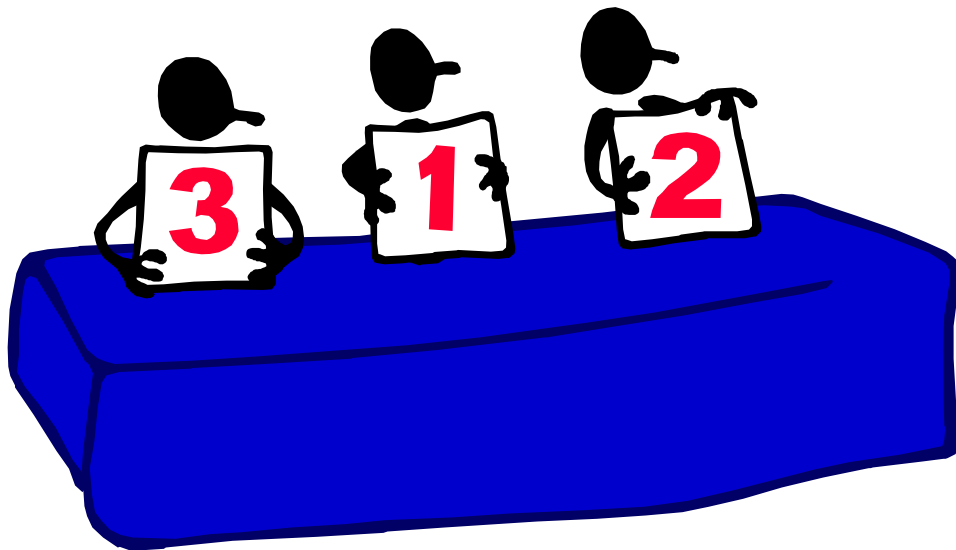
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Major impact

It is believed addictive pain killers are prescribed too readily and patients are receiving too many pills. There needs to be more drug take back programs and locations.

Prioritization



Task Three:
Rank the Four Causal Areas from the Greatest Contributor to Your Community's Problems to the Smallest Contributor

Prioritizing

The prioritization will be the basis of for determining which combination of environmental prevention policies, practices and programs are strategically best for your community.

Score	Rank	Causal Area
1.5	4	Retail Availability
1	5	Criminal Justice
5.5	1	Social Availability
4.5	3	Promotion
5	2	Prescription Drugs

QUESTION 41

Provide the rationale for your rankings of the causal factors.

Social availability is the biggest cause of access. It's felt youth are getting it from home or older siblings/friends. Most anti-drinking campaigns don't address where they're getting the alcohol. In addition, no one seems to be addressing why people are drinking in the first place. It's felt there is a strong mental health component that hasn't been addressed.

Prescription drugs are just now surfacing as a problem. Law enforcement states a lot of the impaired driving stops involve prescription medication. L&C County's numbers are horrible in this area. A lot of awareness and education needs to take place.

Promotion – it seems alcohol distributors are aligning themselves with events that are not only family oriented, but where there is an expectation to drink – Alive @ 5, sporting events, rodeos, etc. Youth Connections will continue to work for separation of alcohol and youth.

Retail availability does not seem to be as much of an issue in the community. Between the RASS trainings and compliance checks, there is already a lot of work around this area. It's felt efforts can be concentrated on other issues at this time.

It's felt the criminal justice system is doing a good job of citing and prosecuting MIPs and DUIs.

Final Question



Task Five:
Determine What Combination of Causal Areas
Your Community should Target

Your Final Conclusions

Now that you have considered the data surrounding your community's alcohol problems, as well as each causal area for these problems, you need to decide what to do. This decision will ultimately be part of your community's SPF SIG Strategic Plan and lead to very specific environmental evidence-based strategies for you to implement. For now, think about your data and especially your final rankings on page 66 as well as your resource assessment on page 69. Also, mull over the possible connections among the four causal areas. Would it be possible to target social availability without also targeting criminal justice/law enforcement? Will changes in retail availability necessarily require changes in the enforcement of policy? Now answer the following question.

Final Needs Assessment Question

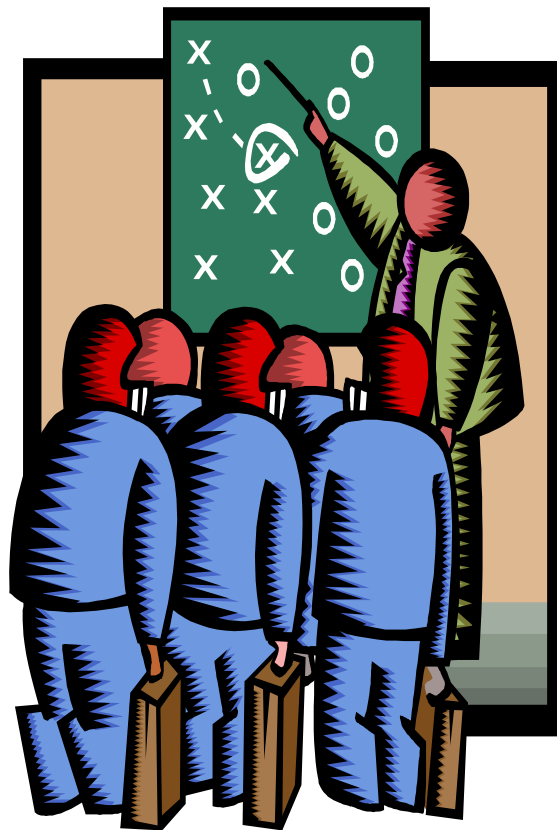
QUESTION 42

It is very unlikely that your community can or needs to address every causal area to impact existing binge drinking and drinking and driving problems. What combination of causal areas is most likely to produce changes in the environment which currently exists within your community? Which specific causal factors will you target Montana Community Change Project and why?

Our community will look at changing legal liability and social taboo. In addition, work will continue with the school board to change the substance abuse policy to include the term "in the presence of" to make it a zero-tolerance policy. If kids know there is a very specific policy that they sign when they agree to participate in school-sponsored sports or activities, they can start to make each other accountable. Coaches need to be on board to follow through on consequences as well. It is a known fact among students that some coaches turn their head if they know an athlete is using.

Education and awareness are key. With the development of the prescription drug task force that already has multiple sectors of the community participating, the issue of driving under the influence will add the discussion of prescription drugs as being intoxicating. This will hopefully help DUIs decrease if people understand that prescription drugs can cause DUIs as well. The 8th grade usage numbers are concerning so work around social norms and education in the middle school will be key. Youth percentages tend to increase as they get older, so high usage numbers in middle school are concerning.

Strategies



Task Six:
Focus of Effects Supported by Data Analysis